



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

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Ser DNS-36JP/15U105564

15 Apr 15

Sent via email to: dan.katz@aviationweek.com

Mr. Daniel Katz  
Aviation Week  
1911 N Fort Myer Drive Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Mr. Katz:

SUBJECT: YOUR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST;  
FOIA TRACKING NUMBER DON-NAVY-2014-007560

This is in reference to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated July 11, 2014. Your request was received in our office on July 14, 2014. On September 25, 2014, following discussion with members of this office, you narrowed your request to 2013 VAMOSC data, category level 3 for "Maintenance" and category level 2 for all other fields.

We contacted the Naval Center for Cost Analysis (NCCA) and the Director for Air Warfare (N98). NCCA conducted a search and identified responsive records from the VAMOSC database. On review of these records, N98 advised that the records should be withheld in their entirety under 5 U.S.C. § 552 (b)(1). Though not itself classified, the requested data may be combined with publicly available information or other unclassified information to reveal information that is currently and properly classified under Executive Order 13526. Specifically, N98 indicated that "[The Responsive records] when aggregated with prior historical information can be used to deduce operational employment and used to extrapolate future force structure and allow adversaries to identify capacity shortfalls in strategic mission areas."

Because your request is denied, you are advised of your right to appeal the denial of your request by writing to:

Office of the Judge Advocate General  
1322 Patterson Ave, SE, Ste 3000  
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5066

Your appeal must be postmarked within sixty calendar days from the date of this letter. A copy of your initial request and this letter must accompany the appeal. The appeal should be marked "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL" both on the envelope and the face of the letter. In order to expedite the appellate process and ensure full consideration of your appeal, your appeal should contain a brief statement of the reasons you believe this decision to be in error.

Additionally, the 2007 FOIA amendments directed the Chief FOIA Officer of each agency to designate one or more FOIA Public Liaisons. Please be advised that the DON FOIA Public Liaison is available to assist in disputes between the requester and the agency. The role of the Liaison is to provide FOIA requesters with an avenue to raise concerns about the service received from a Navy Requester Service Center. You may write to the DON FOIA Public Liaison at Department of the Navy Chief Information Office (DON CIO), 1000 Navy Pentagon, Washington, DC 20350-1000. Alternately, you may contact the DON FOIA Public Liaison via telephone at (703) 695-1297, via fax at (703) 614-4388, or via email at [DONFOIAPublicLiaison@navy.mil](mailto:DONFOIAPublicLiaison@navy.mil).

In this instance, the fees associated with the processing of this request were below the minimum threshold and have not been assessed. Please be advised, however, that fees, fee categories, and fee waivers are determined on a case-by-case basis, and a previous determination has no influence on future determinations.

Questions regarding the action this office has taken during the processing of your request may be directed to our FOIA service center at (202) 685-0412.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robin Patterson", with a stylized flourish at the end.

ROBIN PATTERSON

Head, DON PA/FOIA Program Office